

What is Claimed Is:

1. A method in a server configured for executing messaging operations, the method comprising:

receiving a short message service (SMS) message that specifies a text-to-speech messaging command, a text-based message, and a messaging destination;

5 detecting the text-to-speech messaging command during parsing of the SMS message;

invoking a text-to-speech resource for conversion of the text-based message into an audible message in response to detecting the text-to-speech messaging command; and

outputting the audible message for delivery to the messaging destination.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving step includes determining that the SMS message includes a destination number that corresponds to an SMS command processor within the server.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the detecting step includes detecting the text-to-speech messaging command as a prescribed character within the SMS message.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the detecting step further includes detecting the text-to-speech messaging command adjacent to the messaging destination.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the invoking step includes issuing a procedure call to the text-to-speech resource, the text-to-speech resource executable within the server.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the invoking step includes outputting a request to a second server, configured for executing the text-to-speech resource, according to an IP based protocol.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the outputting step includes outputting a notification message, including the audible message and specifying the messaging destination, to a notification resource configured for notifying the messaging destination with the audible message.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the outputting step further includes generating the notification message including the audible message, the messaging destination, and a prescribed command specifying immediate notification at the messaging destination.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the outputting step further includes outputting the notification message according to SMTP protocol.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising obtaining an e-mail destination for the notification message by accessing a subscriber profile directory based on the messaging destination and according to LDAP protocol.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the outputting step includes:  
requesting a voice over IP resource to establish an audible connection with the messaging destination; and  
playing the audible message in response to establishment of the audible connection.

12. A server configured for executing messaging operations, the server including:  
an interface configured for receiving a short message service (SMS) message, containing a text-to-speech messaging command, a text-based message, and a messaging destination, according to a prescribed network protocol;

5 a text-to-speech resource interface configured for controlling conversion of the text-based message into an audible message; and

an SMS command processor configured for parsing the SMS message and invoking the text-to-speech resource for conversion of the text-based message into the audible message in response

to detecting the text-to-speech messaging command, the SMS command processor configured for outputting the audible message for delivery to the messaging destination.

13. The server of claim 12, wherein the interface is configured for receiving the SMS message according to SMPP protocol.

14. The server of claim 12, further comprising a text-to-speech resource configured for converting the text based message into the audible message, the text-to-speech resource interface configured for issuing a procedure call to the text-to-speech resource in response to a request from the SMS command processor.

15. The server of claim 12, wherein the text-to-speech resource interface is configured for outputting a request to a second server, configured for executing the text-to-speech conversion, according to an IP based protocol.

16. The server of claim 12, wherein SMS command processor is configured for outputting the audible message by generating a notification message that contains the audible message and the messaging destination, and outputting the notification message to a notification resource configured for notifying the messaging destination with the audible message.

17. The server of claim 16, wherein the SMS command processor is configured for outputting the notification message according to SMTP protocol.

18. The server of claim 17, wherein the SMS command processor is configured for obtaining an e-mail destination for the notification message by accessing a subscriber profile directory based on the messaging destination and according to LDAP protocol.

19. The server of claim 12, wherein the SMS command processor is configured for outputting the audible message by requesting a voice over IP resource to establish an audible connection with the messaging destination, the SMS command processor configured for playing the audible message in response to establishment of the audible connection.

20. A computer readable medium having stored thereon sequences of instructions for receiving a short message service (SMS) message by a server, the sequences of instructions including instructions for performing the steps of:

5 receiving a short message service (SMS) message that specifies a text-to-speech messaging command, a text-based message, and a messaging destination;

detecting the text-to-speech messaging command during parsing of the SMS message;

invoking a text-to-speech resource for conversion of the text-based message into an audible message in response to detecting the text-to-speech messaging command; and

outputting the audible message for delivery to the messaging destination.

21. The medium of claim 20, wherein the receiving step includes determining that the SMS message includes a destination number that corresponds to an SMS command processor within the server.

22. The medium of claim 20, wherein the detecting step includes detecting the text-to-speech messaging command as a prescribed character within the SMS message.

23. The medium of claim 22, wherein the detecting step further includes detecting the text-to-speech messaging command adjacent to the messaging destination.

24. The medium of claim 20, wherein the invoking step includes issuing a procedure call to the text-to-speech resource, the text-to-speech resource executable within the server.

25. The medium of claim 20, wherein the invoking step includes outputting a request to a second server, configured for executing the text-to-speech resource, according to an IP based protocol.

26. The medium of claim 20, wherein the outputting step includes outputting a notification message, including the audible message and specifying the messaging destination, to a notification resource configured for notifying the messaging destination with the audible message.

27. The medium of claim 26, wherein the outputting step further includes generating the notification message including the audible message, the messaging destination, and a prescribed command specifying immediate notification at the messaging destination.

28. The medium of claim 27, wherein the outputting step further includes outputting the notification message according to SMTP protocol.

29. The medium of claim 28, further comprising instructions for performing the step of obtaining an e-mail destination for the notification message by accessing a subscriber profile directory based on the messaging destination and according to LDAP protocol.

30. The medium of claim 20, wherein the outputting step includes:  
requesting a voice over IP resource to establish an audible connection with the messaging destination; and  
playing the audible message in response to establishment of the audible connection.

31. A server comprising:  
means for receiving a short message service (SMS) message that specifies a text-to-speech messaging command, a text-based message, and a messaging destination;

means for detecting the text-to-speech messaging command during parsing of the SMS message;

means for invoking a text-to-speech resource for conversion of the text-based message into an audible message in response to detecting the text-to-speech messaging command; and

means for outputting the audible message for delivery to the messaging destination.

32. The server of claim 31, wherein the receiving means is configured for determining that the SMS message includes a destination number that corresponds to an SMS command processor within the server.

33. The server of claim 31, wherein the detecting means is configured for detecting the text-to-speech messaging command as a prescribed character within the SMS message.

34. The server of claim 33, wherein the detecting means is configured for detecting the text-to-speech messaging command adjacent to the messaging destination.

35. The server of claim 31, further comprising the the text-to-speech resource, wherein the invoking means is configured for issuing a procedure call to the text-to-speech resource.

36. The server of claim 31, wherein the invoking means is configured for outputting a request to a second server, configured for executing the text-to-speech resource, according to an IP based protocol.

37. The server of claim 31, wherein the outputting means is configured for outputting a notification message, including the audible message and specifying the messaging destination, to a notification resource configured for notifying the messaging destination with the audible message.

38. The server of claim 37, wherein the outputting means is configured for generating the notification message including the audible message, the messaging destination, and a prescribed command specifying immediate notification at the messaging destination.

39. The server of claim 38, wherein the outputting means is configured for outputting the notification message according to SMTP protocol.

40. The server of claim 39, further comprising means for obtaining an e-mail destination for the notification message by accessing a subscriber profile directory based on the messaging destination and according to LDAP protocol.

41. The server of claim 31, wherein the outputting means is configured for:  
requesting a voice over IP resource to establish an audible connection with the messaging destination; and  
playing the audible message in response to establishment of the audible connection.